



The Old Ironsides Report

13 August 2003

Volume I Issue 23

Military History Group preserves history of Operation Iraqi Freedom

**Story by Sgt. Mark Rickertt
372nd MPAD**

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- A unit with the coalition forces recently called a military history specialist, Capt. David Hanselman, after they found an abandoned Iraqi troop carrier in the desert just outside Tollil, Iraq. They wanted the captain's opinion on its worth.

Hanselman had seen plenty of these. It is his job, after all, it is to check out military equipment, to assess its historical value and then decide whether the U.S. forces should haul the equipment back home.

Hanselman agreed to come. He drove out to the site. By the looks of it, the armored personnel carrier had been sitting there for a while, with its steel treads splayed out next to it. Hanselman walked over, turned the latch and pulled. The hatch groaned open.

He stuck his head in for a moment, suddenly staggered back when the smell hit him. The thing had the odor of a refrigerator gone bad, where all the meat inside spoils. As flies buzzed by, he turned to the others and said, "I don't think we need this one."

The CFLCC (Coalition Forces Land Component Command) - Military History Group has spent the last four months collecting and surveying war memorabilia in order to preserve the history of the war.

The history group consists of only a handful of workers and they are based out of Camp Doha in Kuwait. They arrived in Baghdad toward the end of April. The intent of the Military History Group is to collect items that possess historical value. These items are not 4,000-year-old Sumerian pots or scrolls, but rather actual weapons systems and other military equipment used in the war.

Hanselman, a historical property specialist with the Military History Group, catalogs all types of military items that he calls "cultural antiquities." From Toyota trucks with dual rocket launchers mounted on the cab, to Iraqi Army uniforms, it is Hanselman's job to consider what items will be desirable museum treasures, as well as what items are not needed back in the states.

"It's interesting to see how the Iraqi soldiers adapted and overcame for the war," said Hanselman. "Although they didn't actually overcome, it's still interesting."

The museum history group has cataloged over 1,500 items within the last three or four months, said Hanselman. Hanselman will escort the memorabilia back to Camp Doha, where he and his team will review and catalog the items into a database. From there, they will ship the keepsakes to Washington, D.C., where they will wait to be displayed in the forthcoming Army National Museum.

Battalion-level units can also claim "trophies of war" and bring these back to a specified museum. Each unit is allotted one weapons system or 12 non-weapon systems. The reason for these small numbers is to reduce the amount of weaponry that comes back to the states.



Capt. David Hanselman, standing, military history specialist, and Master Sgt. Marc Sammis, artifact team member, inspect a Russian-built T-55 tank, which was captured in Iraq by an Army Reserve unit

According to Hanselman, the process is time-consuming and causes some conflicts. For a unit to acquire a war relic, the unit must first contact the Military History Group. After the team approves and catalogs the item, the MHG then investigates the legitimacy of the museum in question. In short, a lot of paperwork and stringent guidelines are involved with the process.

In past operations, units had few restrictions on what they could take home as war relics. This time, it's not that simple.

"The deal now is that we are not 'conquering heroes;' we are 'liberators,'" said Hanselman.

So far, the Museum History Group has turned up some interesting artifacts. Hanselman said that he has collected three handguns of interest—Oday Hussein's personal collection. Two of the revolvers are flashy, nickel-plated showpieces. The third, however, is a cheap, Czech 9 mm pistol -- the gun which Oday used to kill.

Though the job is not always a glamorous Indiana Jones flick, the group's mission is vital to the future. When the dust settles, and the world turns its eyes on other things, history will be preserved.

"We formulate history," said Hanselman. "There are two ways to formulate history. You can read it in a book or you can go to the museum and see it firsthand. Our success here will determine how successful the story is told back in the U.S."

The Old Ironsides Report 13 August, 2003

1st Armored Division Essential and Important Contacts

8th Finance Battalion

DNVT# 551-9308

Customer Service 0830-1700

Cashiers 0830-1700

Offers casual pay, check cashing, paying agents, allotments, any finance issue.

55th Personnel Battalion Support

DNVT# 551-9529 (promotions, SIDPERS)

551-9610 (reassignments)

551-9605 (officer/enlisted records)

551-9606 (casualties)

551-9604 (in/out processing)

0800-1700

Offers assistance with reassignments, Expanded Family Member Program, promotions, retirement.

Staff Judge Advocate

DNVT# 551-0694

0900-2000

Offers legal assistance, military justice, administrative law, claims.

Equal Opportunity

DNVT# 551-9109

0900-1700

Offers assistance with EO issues, informal and formal complaints, mediation, EO classes.

Inspector General

DNVT# 551-0667

0900-1700

Offers assistance on clarifying regulations on soldiers' issues, inspector general assistance.

Combat Stress Team

DNVT# 551-9205

After hours #551-2396

0900-1700

Provides short-term counseling, redeployment briefings, suicide prevention classes, anger management classes, command consultations.

BIAP Specific

Oasis Showers

Males: 0600-1200, 1700-2300

Females: 0600-1200, 1700-2100

Barber Shop

0900-1800

Burger King

0800-1900

Gift Shop

0900-1800

Post Exchange

0700-2000

Post Office (MPS, priority, standard rates)

The 1AD Official Mail Room will be opening on 15 August 2003 at the APO located on BIAP (BLDG 4, between the Mayor's Cell and the PX). Hours of operations are Monday-Sunday 0900-1400. The Official Mail Room will accept mail that is Official Business ONLY (No Personal Mail). Special Services (i.e. Registered Mail, Certified Mail and Return Receipts) are available. Registered mail is used for Classified Mail (Confidential or Secret) and high value items only. Certified mail is used to ensure that the recipient signs for the package or letter. Any mail requiring a Special Service must have a memorandum signed by an E-7 or above requesting the service. For more information, you may contact 1AD Official Mail Manager @ 551-9525.

* Any further information specific to 1AD BCTs, attached units and detachments is welcome by 1AD PAO. Please call DNV# 551-0351.

ENTERTAINMENT MUSIC

Top 5 Albums:

1. Bad Boys II -- Soundtrack
2. Now 13 -- Various artists
3. Dangerously in Love -- Beyonce
4. Fallen -- Evanescence
5. Jackpot -- Chingy

Top 5 Singles

1. Crazy in Love -- Beyonce featuring Jay-Z
2. Right Thurr -- Chingy
3. Never Leave You: Uh Ooh, Uh Ooh! -- Lumidee
4. P.I.M.P. -- 50 Cent
5. Rock Wit U (Awww Baby) -- Ashanti

BOOKS

Top 5 Bestsellers

1. Seabiscuit: An American Legend --
Laura Hillenbrand pub: Ballantine
2. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix --
J.K. Rowling pub: Arthur Levine/Scholastic
3. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution --
Robert C. Atkins pub: Avon
4. The Da Vinci Code --
Dan Brown pub: Doubleday
5. The South Beach Diet --
Arthur Agatston pub: Rodale

Oddly Enough

Judge Accepts Burrito-Breath Claim

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (AP) -- A judge has ruled in favor of a man's claim that he had alcohol on his breath not because he drank, but due to his eating of burritos made with beer-and-tequila marinated meat. William Dolge, 45, was accused of violating his work release for having alcohol on his breath when he returned to jail from his job last month. After reviewing the burrito recipe, Lincoln County District Judge John Murphy agreed that the Mexican food was to blame. "The court feels it is unnecessary to conduct a taste test of the burritos in question to determine their potency," Murphy wrote in his ruling Thursday. "The list of ingredients indicates that there is sufficient alcohol in the burritos for a preliminary breath test to register positive." Dolge ate four burritos that were brought to his work place by a fellow employee, according to court records. The recipe included one bottle of red Irish beer, 1 1/2 cups of tequila and three-quarters of a bottle of dark ale. "No rational person would use a 'burrito' defense as a means of covering up the consumption of alcohol during a period of work release," Murphy wrote.

NEWS

Teen Suicide Bombers Kill Two Israelis

ROSH HAAYIN, Israel (AP) - Teenage Palestinian suicide bombers attacked a shopping plaza in Israel and a bus stop in the West Bank Tuesday, killing two Israelis and raising new doubt about the fate of a shaky Mideast truce. Hamas claimed responsibility for the West Bank blast, its first open violation of a cease-fire it declared June 29, while the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the other attack.

Computer Infection Disrupts Asia, Europe

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) - An Internet-borne infection incapacitated tens of thousands of computers on Tuesday, snarling company networks and frustrating home users as it spread across the globe. Security officials said the virus-like worm, dubbed "LovSan," was part of a coordinated electronic attack that exploited one of the most serious flaws yet discovered in Microsoft Corp.'s Windows operating systems.

Chaplain's thought for the day:

World War II Hero

General Mark Clark was one of the great heroes of WWII. He led the Salerno invasion that Winston Churchill said was "the most daring amphibious operation we have launched, or which, I think, has ever been launched on a similar scale in war." At the time Clark was promoted to Lt. General, he was the youngest man of that rank in the U.S. Army. He graduated from West Point in 1917. At the top of his class? Nope. He was 111th from the top in a class of 139!

God sees the potential in us. The trick is to see that same potential in ourselves.

SPORTS

Royals Double Trouble for Yankees

(AP) Thanks to Mike DiFelice and his friends, the crowd at Kansas City had a reason to be doubly excited. Hudson outpitched Pedro Martinez, shutting out Boston on two infield singles and leading the Athletics to a 4-0 win Monday night. The hitters ruled in Kansas City, where the Royals beat the New York Yankees 12-9 in a game that featured an American League-record 19 doubles.

Ex-Olympic Coach Herb Brooks Dies at 66

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -- Herb Brooks, who coached the U.S. hockey team to the "Miracle on Ice" victory over the Soviet Union at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics, died Monday in a car accident. He was 66. On Feb. 22, 1980, the U.S. team scored with 10 minutes to play to take a 4-3 lead against the Soviets and then held on. As the final seconds ticked away, announcer Al Michaels exclaimed, "Do you believe in miracles? Yes!" It remains one of the most famous calls in sports broadcasting history. Before playing the Soviets, Brooks told them: "You're meant to be here. This moment is yours. You're meant to be here at this time."

This Day in History

August 13th 1864

Sensing a weakness in the Confederate defenses around Richmond and Petersburg, Virginia, Union General Ulysses S. Grant seeks to break the siege of Petersburg by concentrating his force against one section of the Rebel trenches. However, Grant miscalculated, and the week-long operation that began on August 13 failed to penetrate the Confederate defenses.

The campaign cost 3,000 Union casualties and about 1,500 for the Confederates. The Southern defensive network, stretching over 20 miles, remained intact, but the failed operation prevented Lee from shipping troops to Early in the Shenandoah

A Smart Tip from 1AD Safety

An Improperly Constructed Fighting Position Can Result In A Fatal Injury.

DO

- ✓ Construct to Standard
- ✓ Interlock Sandbags
- ✓ Use Double Wall Construction
- ✓ Fill Sandbags 75% Full

DON'T

- X Fail to Supervise
- X Use Sandbags for Structural Support
- X Drive Vehicles Within 6 Feet



Across

- 1 Some funds
- 7 Slow and careful
- 15 1933 headline
- 16 Soothing substance
- 17 Tour-book listing
- 18 Swell
- 19 Take on
- 20 "Addie ___" ("Paper Moon" source)
- 21 Spoon partner
- 22 Impersonated
- 23 Art exhibition
- 25 Bull Run victor
- 26 Sinker material
- 28 Salami type
- 30 Opera role originated by Anne Brown
- 31 "Great Expectations" character
- 33 Mideast money
- 35 Treeless plain
- 36 Celtic soothsayers
- 40 Bygone despot
- 42 Hardly used
- 43 Cantata master
- 46 Vine product
- 48 Costa ___
- 49 Aussie beast
- 50 Piquant
- 52 Playground pursuit
- 53 Boat's wake
- 55 Eight bits
- 56 Gasket
- 58 Swift runner
- 60 Think
- 61 Thinks a lot of
- 62 Tall player
- 63 Light source
- 64 Council members

Down

- 1 Foot-powered devices
- 2 Most prepared
- 3 Current
- 4 Flow slowly

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | R | U | S | T | S | | M | E | T | H | O | D | I | C |
| R | E | P | E | A | L | | A | L | O | E | V | E | R | A |
| E | A | T | E | R | Y | | T | E | R | R | I | F | I | C |
| A | D | O | P | T | | P | R | A | Y | | D | I | S | H |
| D | I | D | | S | A | L | O | N | | | | L | E | E |
| L | E | A | D | | G | E | N | O | A | | B | E | S | S |
| E | S | T | E | L | L | A | | R | I | A | L | | | |
| S | T | E | P | P | E | | | | D | R | U | I | D | S |
| | | | T | S | A | R | | L | I | K | E | N | E | W |
| B | A | C | H | | M | E | L | O | N | | R | I | C | A |
| E | M | U | | | | T | A | N | G | Y | | T | A | G |
| W | A | S | H | | B | Y | T | E | | O | R | I | N | G |
| A | N | T | E | L | O | P | E | | I | D | E | A | T | E |
| I | D | O | L | I | Z | E | S | | C | E | N | T | E | R |
| L | A | M | P | P | O | S | T | | E | L | D | E | R | S |

Puzzle (c) Stanley Newman, distributed by Creators Syndicate, Inc.

Hosting & Software (c) PZZL.com

- 5 Fruit products
- 6 Underhanded
- 7 Dignified woman
- 8 "Broadway Melody of 1940" name
- 9 Whig opponent
- 10 "And I Love ___"
- 11 Livy contemporary
- 12 Dirty
- 13 Signs of spring
- 14 Hoards
- 20 Hearing remark
- 24 Shining
- 27 Sub concern
- 29 Moving forward
- 30 Not as up
- 32 Records
- 34 Indy prize
- 37 Kick off
- 38 Crystal piece
- 39 Struts
- 41 Keys in again
- 42 "The Last Emperor" star
- 43 Lament
- 44 Mr. Spock's mother
- 45 Traditional exercise
- 47 State-of-the-art
- 51 Echo source, maybe
- 54 Tide over
- 55 Incompetent sort
- 57 Split
- 59 Guff
- 60 Water cooler